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10. (Amended) A method for embedding chat functions in a Web page, comprising:

in response to a command received by a computer, establishing a browser region on a display device; and embedding a chat region within the browser region on the display device, [chat regions on a display device,] the chat region being a real time continuously open bi-directional communications chat region [embedded in the browser region].

11. (Amended) The method of Claim 10 further comprising:

displaying the chat region and the browser region simultaneously on the display device; and
allowing a user to concurrently perform a chat function,
a browser function or both

[wherein the establishing comprises:

in response to the command received by the computer, establishing the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command being received by the computer from a computer network].

12. (Amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the establishing comprises:

in response to the command received by the computer, establishing the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command being received by the computer from a user or a computer network.

D | 13. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 10 and comprising:

with a chat client resident on the computer, processing chat content using a chat server for display in the chat region; and

with a browser resident on the computer, processing a document or other content using a browser server for concurrent display in the browser region.

14. The method of Claim 13 and comprising: linking the chat client to the browser so that the chat client controls the content displayed in the browser region.

15. The method of Claim 14 wherein the linking comprises: linking the chat client to the browser through an application program interface of the browser.

16. The method of Claim 15 and comprising: in response to the chat content received by the computer, invoking the chat client through the application program interface, so that the chat content is displayed in the chat region.

17. The method of Claim 16 wherein the invoking comprises:

in response to the chat content received by the computer, invoking the chat client through the application program interface, so that the chat content is displayed in the chat region, the chat content being of a particular MIME type.

18. The method of Claim 16 wherein the invoking comprises:

in response to the chat content received by the computer, invoking the chat client through the application program interface, so that the chat content is displayed in the chat region, the chat client including a file having a particular extension.

19. The method of Claim 15 wherein the linking comprises:

linking the chat client to the browser through the application program interface, the application program interface being implemented as a plug-in architecture.

20. The method of Claim 15 wherein the linking comprises:

linking the chat client to the browser through the application program interface, the application program interface being implemented as an ActiveX architecture.

21. The method of Claim 10 and comprising:

in response to chat content received by the computer, displaying the chat content in the chat region.

22. The method of Claim 21 and comprising:

in response to browser content received by the computer, displaying the browser content in the browser region.

23. The method of Claim 22 wherein the displaying comprises:

in response to the browser content received by the computer, displaying the browser content in the browser region, the browser content including a markup language document.

24. The method of Claim 22 wherein the displaying comprises:

in response to the browser content received by the computer, displaying the browser content in the browser region, the browser content including an HTML document.

25. The method of Claim 10 wherein the establishing comprises:

establishing the chat region embedded in the Web page; and

establishing the Web page embedded in the browser region.

26. The method of Claim 10 wherein the establishing comprises:

in response to the command, establishing the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command including a markup language command.

27. The method of Claim 10 wherein the establishing comprises:

in response to the command, establishing the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command including an HTML command.

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28. (Amended) A system for embedding chat functions in a Web page, the system being connected to a computer network and comprising:

a display device; and
a computer for, in response to a command, establishing a browser region on the display device and embedding a chat region[s] within the browser region on the display device so that the chat region and the browser region are concurrently displayed, the chat region being a real time continuously open bidirectional communications chat region [embedded in the browser region].

29. (Amended) The system of Claim 28 wherein the computer, in response to a command, performs a chat function, a browser function, or both [the command is from the computer network].

30. (Amended) The system of Claim 28 wherein the command is from a user or a computer network.

31. (Twice Amended) The system of Claim 28 wherein the computer is for:

with a chat client resident on the computer, processing chat content using a chat server for display in the chat region; and

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with a browser resident on the computer, processing a document or other content using a browser server for concurrent display in the browser region.

32. The system of Claim 31 wherein the chat client is linked to the browser so that the chat client controls the content displayed in the browser region.

33. The system of Claim 32 wherein the chat client is linked to the browser through an application program interface of the browser.

34. The system of Claim 33 wherein the computer is for: in response to the chat content received by the computer, invoking the chat client through the application program interface, so that the chat content is displayed in the chat region.

35. The system of Claim 34 wherein the chat content is of a particular MIME type.

36. The system of Claim 34 wherein the chat client includes a file having a particular extension.

37. The system of Claim 33 wherein the application program interface is implemented as a plug-in architecture.

38. The system of Claim 33 wherein the application program interface is implemented as an ActiveX architecture.

39. The system of Claim 28 wherein the computer is for: in response to chat content received by the computer, causing the display device to display the chat content in the chat region.

40. The system of Claim 39 wherein the computer is for: in response to browser content received by the computer, causing the display device to display the browser content in the browser region.

41. The system of Claim 40 wherein the browser content includes a markup language document.

42. The system of Claim 40 wherein the browser content includes an HTML document.

43. The system of Claim 40 wherein the computer network includes first and second servers, the command being from the first server, and the browser content being from the second server.

44. The system of Claim 43 wherein the first server is integral with the second server.

45. The system of Claim 28 wherein the computer is for: establishing the chat region embedded in the Web page; and establishing the Web page embedded in the browser region.

46. The system of Claim 28 wherein the command includes a markup language command.

47. The system of Claim 28 wherein the command includes an HTML command.

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48. A computer program product stored on a tangible medium and [,] comprising:

a computer application stored on a tangible medium processable by a computer for causing the computer to:
in response to a command, establish a browser region [and chat regions] on a display device;
establish a chat region embedded within the browser region; and[,]
display the browser region and chat region concurrently on the display device, the chat region being a real time continuously open bidirectional communications chat region [embedded in the browser region; and
an apparatus from which the computer application is accessible by the computer].

49. (Amended) The computer program product of Claim 48 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to allow a user to concurrently perform a chat function, a browser function, or both [:

in response to the command, establish the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command being from a computer network].

50. (Amended) The computer program product of Claim 48 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to the command, establish the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command being from a user or a computer network.

51. (Twice Amended) The computer program product of Claim 48 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

with a chat client resident on the computer, process chat content using a chat server for display in the chat region; and

with a browser resident on the computer, process a document or other content using a browser server for concurrent display in the browser region.

52. The computer program product of Claim 51 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

link the chat client to the browser so that the chat client controls the content displayed in the browser region.

53. The computer program product of Claim 52 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

link the chat client to the browser through an application program interface of the browser.

54. The computer program product of Claim 53 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to the chat content received by the computer, invoke the chat client through the application program interface, so that the chat content is displayed in the chat region.

55. The computer program product of Claim 54 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to the chat content received by the computer, invoke the chat client through the application program interface, so that the chat content is displayed in the chat region, the chat content being of a particular MIME type.

56. The computer program product of Claim 54 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to the chat content received by the computer, invoke the chat client through the application program interface, so that the chat content is displayed in the chat

region, the chat client including a file having a particular extension.

57. The computer program product of Claim 53 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

link the chat client to the browser through the application program interface, the application program interface being implemented as a plug-in architecture.

58. The computer program product of Claim 53 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

link the chat client to the browser through the application program interface, the application program interface being implemented as an ActiveX architecture.

59. The computer program product of Claim 48 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to chat content received by the computer, cause the display device to display the chat content in the chat region.

60. The computer program product of Claim 59 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to browser content received by the computer, cause the display device to display the browser content in the browser region.

61. The computer program product of Claim 60 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to the browser content received by the computer, cause the display device to display the browser content in the browser region, the browser content including a markup language document.

62. The computer program product of Claim 60 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to the browser content received by the computer, cause the display device to display the browser content in the browser region, the browser content including an HTML document.

63. The computer program product of Claim 48 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

establish the chat region embedded in a Web page; and establish the Web page embedded in the browser region.

64. The computer program product of Claim 48 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to

in response to the command, establish the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command including a markup language command.

65. The computer program product of Claim 48 wherein the computer application is processable by the computer for causing the computer to:

in response to the command, establish the browser and chat regions on the display device, the command including an HTML command.

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the time taken by the Examiner to review Applicants' present application. This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed July 20, 1999. Applicants request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 10-65 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,572,619, issued to Judson, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,880,731, issued to Liles, et al.

The Examiner states that Judson teaches "chat region embedded in a browser region." See Paper Number 12, page 3. The Examiner then acknowledges that Judson does not disclose "that chat region being a real time continuously open bidirectional communications chat region embedded in the